

CATAWBA COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
ANNEX E
LAW ENFORCEMENT

I. PURPOSE

This annex provides for crime prevention, maintenance of law and order and traffic control during emergency situations.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

- A. Situation - During emergencies law enforcement agencies must expand their operations to provide the increased protection required by disaster conditions. Numerous federal, state and County law enforcement agencies are available to support local law enforcement agencies within the Catawba County.
- B. Assumptions - Activities of local law enforcement agencies will increase significantly during emergency operations. Adequate law enforcement resources and services will often be available through existing mutual aid agreements. If local capabilities are overtaxed, support will be obtained from state and federal law enforcement agencies.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. Emergency law enforcement operations will be an expansion of normal functions and responsibilities. These responsibilities will include maintenance of law and order, traffic control, crowd control and security.
- B. Law enforcement activities will remain under the control of the senior law enforcement officer for the jurisdiction in which the emergency operation is taking place.
- C. Law enforcement agencies will have a responsibility for warning the public and for traffic control in and near an evacuated area and in other areas of emergency operations.
- D. During technological, natural or civil disturbance threat or actual occurrence the County Sheriff or designee will coordinate law enforcement

operations from the County Emergency Operations Center if needed. At the same time, municipal law enforcement agencies will be responsible for directing law enforcement activities within their local EOCs. Coordination among law enforcement agencies will ensure security for vacated hazard areas, essential industries, prisoners, evacuating populations and congregate care facilities and will establish road blocks, checkpoints and traffic control points and parking areas as needed.

IV. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

- A. The Sheriff is responsible for the direction and control of law enforcement activities during emergencies.
- B. Assistant Coordinators for Law Enforcement are Chiefs of Police in their respective municipalities.

V. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

- A. The chain of command within an organized law enforcement organization is established by senior rank and position to ensure continuous leadership and does not change during emergency operations.
- B. The line of succession is:
 - 1. Sheriff
 - 2. Major
 - 3. Captain
- C. Records vital to the law enforcement function will be protected during emergency situations.